

VEGETABLES

1998 Vegetable Season: The mild winter, wet spring, dry summer, and favorable fall all had different impacts on vegetable crops this season. The spring planting started out early. Rainfall was above normal, while temperatures averaged below normal during April. In May, central Jersey experienced excessive rainfall, while south Jersey's topsoil moisture was short and some irrigation was needed. Growing conditions and quality of spring vegetables were generally good. Topsoil moisture became short during the summer months and irrigation and spraying were necessary. However, warm days, cool nights, and low humidity had a beneficial effect of keeping diseases down. Fall planting and harvest was normal and the quality of crops was good. As the season concluded, total harvest of all principal vegetables showed a 4 percent decrease, but total production showed a 2 percent increase from the previous year.

Fresh Market Vegetables: Area harvested for the eleven principal fresh market vegetables in 1998 totaled 33,800 acres, compared with 35,100 acres in 1997; down 1,300 acres. Production amounted to 4,662,000 hundredweight, a 2 percent increase from the 4,577,000 hundredweight in 1997. Overall yield in 1998 averaged 138 hundredweight; up 8 hundredweight from the previous year. Acres harvested for Romaine and other leaf lettuce, summer and winter squash, kale, collards, and pumpkins totaled 8,800; up 300 acres from 1997.

Among the eleven fresh market vegetables, spinach had higher harvested acres in 1998 than in 1997, while the other vegetable crop's acres declined or remained unchanged. The sharpest decline in acres harvested was sweet corn, down 900 acres. The total value of the eleven principal fresh market vegetables increased 12 percent from 1997 as a result of higher levels of production with higher season average prices.

Ranking New Jersey's principal fresh market vegetables by value of production shows that

Jersey Fresh tomatoes were first with \$29.0 million, bell peppers were second with \$28.0 million and sweet corn, cucumbers, and cabbage ranked third, fourth, and fifth with \$13.4 million, \$10.8 and \$9.7 million, respectively.

Processing Vegetables: Harvested acreage in 1998 of the seven major processing vegetables (tomatoes, carrots, cucumbers, green peas, snap beans, lima beans, and sweet corn) totaled 10,300 acres, compared with 7,100 acres in 1997; up 45 percent. The increase of harvested acres was mainly attributed to sweet corn, lima beans, snap beans and green peas. In 1997, planting of these crops was interrupted by wet conditions during the spring. Total production, at 63,360 tons, was a 9 percent increase from 58,040 tons in 1997. The season average price was \$138.80 per ton, compared with \$109.90 per ton in 1997; up 26 percent. The 1998 value of production at \$8.8 million was up 38 percent from \$6.4 million in 1997 .

NEW JERSEY: VEGETABLES CROPS, 1993 - 1998

Year	Acres Harvested	Yield Per Acre (cwt)	Production (1,000 cwt)	Season Average Price Per Cwt. (\$)	Value	
					Total (\$1,000)	Per Acre (\$)
	ASPARAGUS, Jan - June, fresh market					
1993	900	25	23	101.00	2,323	2,581
1994	900	20	18	98.00	1,764	1,960
1995	900	28	25	112.00	2,800	3,111
1996	900	40	36	107.00	3,852	4,280
1997	1,000	23	23	107.00	2,461	2,461
1998 1/	1,000	27	27	84.20	2,273	2,273
	CABBAGE, Jan - Dec, fresh market					
1993	2,300	250	575	14.00	8,050	3,500
1994	2,300	300	690	11.30	7,797	3,390
1995	2,200	165	363	11.80	4,283	1,947
1996	2,300	330	759	15.30	11,613	5,049
1997	2,100	280	588	12.40	7,291	3,472
1998 1/	2,000	340	680	14.20	9,656	4,828
	CUCUMBER, July - Dec, fresh market					
1993	2,400	195	468	16.90	7,909	3,295
1994	2,500	190	475	17.50	8,313	3,325
1995	2,700	185	500	17.80	8,900	3,296
1996	2,900	150	435	15.90	6,917	2,385
1997	3,200	130	416	16.80	6,989	2,184
1998 1/	3,100	180	558	19.30	10,769	3,474
	EGGPLANT, July - Dec, fresh market					
1993	1,000	230	230	20.20	4,646	4,646
1994	1,000	240	240	22.00	5,280	5,280
1995	800	150	150	18.50	2,220	2,775
1996	900	205	205	23.60	4,366	4,851
1997	1,000	195	195	17.60	3,432	3,432
1998 1/	1,000	240	240	25.30	6,072	6,072
	ESCAROLE and ENDIVE, Jan - Dec, fresh market					
1993	800	180	144	22.70	3,269	4,086
1994	800	150	120	22.00	2,640	3,300
1995	800	135	108	24.00	2,592	3,240
1996	900	190	171	24.10	4,121	4,579
1997	900	180	162	22.30	3,613	4,014
1998 1/	900	165	149	28.40	4,232	4,702
	HEAD LETTUCE, Jan - Dec, fresh market					
1993	1,900	220	418	20.10	8,402	4,422
1994	1,800	260	468	26.60	12,449	6,916
1995	1,500	240	360	24.30	8,748	5,832
1996	1,300	280	364	22.60	8,226	6,328
1997	1,300	280	364	27.10	9,864	7,588
1998 1/	1,300	200	260	32.20	8,372	6,440
	PEPPERS, BELL, July - Dec, fresh market and processing					
1993	4,800	175	840	25.70	21,588	4,498
1994	4,900	280	1,372	27.90	38,279	7,812
1995	4,400	160	704	28.80	20,275	4,608
1996	4,300	220	946	25.30	23,934	5,566
1997	4,200	260	1,092	26.40	28,829	6,864
1998 1/	4,100	230	943	29.70	28,007	6,831

1/ Preliminary.

NEW JERSEY: VEGETABLES CROPS, 1993 - 1998

Year	Acres Harvested	Yield Per Acre (cwt)	Production (1,000 cwt)	Season Average Price Per Cwt. (\$)	Value	
					Total (\$1,000)	Per Acre (\$)
	SNAPBEANS, Jan - Dec, fresh market					
1993	4,700	52	244	27.70	6,759	1,438
1994	4,100	30	123	34.00	4,182	1,020
1995	3,700	45	167	35.00	5,845	1,580
1996	3,600	40	144	32.80	4,723	1,312
1997	4,100	35	144	33.60	4,838	1,180
1998 1/	3,900	50	195	37.00	7,215	1,850
	SPINACH, Jan - Dec, fresh market					
1993	1,600	90	144	27.10	3,902	2,439
1994	1,700	95	162	25.30	4,099	2,411
1995	2,000	80	160	30.50	4,880	2,440
1996	2,100	100	210	28.20	5,922	3,820
1997	1,900	125	238	25.60	6,093	3,207
1998 1/	2,000	90	180	36.90	6,642	3,321
	SWEET CORN, July - Dec, fresh market					
1993	8,800	95	836	19.00	15,884	1,805
1994	9,000	85	765	16.90	12,929	1,437
1995	10,000	68	680	16.60	11,288	1,129
1996	10,500	68	714	21.90	15,637	1,489
1997	11,500	55	633	20.10	12,723	1,106
1998 1/	10,600	65	689	19.40	13,367	1,261
	TOMATOES, July - Dec, fresh market					
1993	4,500	130	585	32.30	18,896	4,199
1994	4,500	145	653	44.20	28,863	6,414
1995	4,500	180	810	33.00	26,730	5,940
1996	4,100	170	697	33.80	23,559	5,746
1997	3,900	185	722	36.70	26,497	6,794
1998 1/	3,900	190	741	39.20	29,047	7,448

1/ Preliminary.

**NEW JERSEY: TOMATOES, ACRES HARVESTED FOR FRESH MARKET
BY COUNTIES, 1993 - 1998**

County	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998 1/
Fresh Market						
NORTH DISTRICT						
Hunterdon	100	100	100	100	100	100
Morris	100	100	100	100	50	50
Sussex	100	100	100	100	100	100
CENTRAL DISTRICT						
Burlington	500	400	400	300	300	300
Middlesex	100	150	150	100	100	100
Monmouth	400	400	400	400	350	400
SOUTH DISTRICT						
Atlantic	300	300	300	300	300	300
Cumberland	400	400	400	600	500	550
Gloucester	1,400	1,600	1,600	1,200	1,100	1,100
Salem	700	600	600	500	500	400
Other Counties	400	350	350	400	500	500
STATE	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,100	3,900	3,900

1/ Preliminary.

**NEW JERSEY: ASPARAGUS, ACRES HARVESTED FOR FRESH MARKET
BY COUNTIES, 1993 - 1998**

County	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998 1/
CENTRAL DISTRICT						
Burlington	100	100	100	50	100	100
SOUTH DISTRICT						
Cumberland	100	100	150	150	100	100
Gloucester	350	350	350	400	400	400
Salem	250	250	250	200	300	300
Other Counties	100	100	50	100	100	100
STATE	900	900	900	900	1,000	1,000

1/ Preliminary.

**NEW JERSEY: CABBAGE, ACRES HARVESTED FOR FRESH MARKET
BY COUNTIES, 1993 - 1998**

County	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998 1/
CENTRAL DISTRICT						
Burlington	150	150	150	150	150	150
Monmouth	250	200	250	300	300	200
SOUTH DISTRICT						
Atlantic	450	450	350	450	350	350
Cumberland	850	900	900	800	700	750
Gloucester	250	250	200	200	200	150
Salem	200	200	200	100	100	100
Other Counties	150	150	150	300	300	300
STATE	2,300	2,300	2,200	2,300	2,100	2,000

1/ Preliminary.

**NEW JERSEY: SWEET CORN, ACRES HARVESTED FOR FRESH MARKET
BY COUNTIES, 1993 - 1998**

County	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998 1/
NORTH DISTRICT						
Hunterdon	300	400	400	400	450	400
Morris	600	600	700	700	750	700
Somerset	200	200	200	200	200	200
Sussex	700	700	800	800	800	800
Warren	600	600	500	600	600	500
CENTRAL DISTRICT						
Burlington	1,800	1,500	1,400	1,400	1,600	1,500
Mercer	200	300	400	400	450	400
Middlesex	400	400	400	450	550	400
Monmouth	700	700	900	1,000	1,100	1,200
Ocean	100	100	100	100	100	100
SOUTH DISTRICT						
Atlantic	500	500	700	700	750	600
Camden	400	400	500	500	600	500
Cape May	200	200	300	300	300	300
Cumberland	300	300	500	450	500	500
Gloucester	800	800	900	800	800	800
Salem	900	1,200	1,200	1,600	1,800	1,600
Other Counties	100	100	100	100	150	100
STATE	8,800	9,000	10,000	10,500	11,500	10,600

1/ Preliminary.

**NEW JERSEY: BELL PEPPERS, ACRES HARVESTED FOR FRESH MARKET
BY COUNTIES, 1993 - 1998**

County	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998 1/
CENTRAL DISTRICT						
Burlington	100	200	100	100	100	100
Monmouth	300	300	300	300	350	300
SOUTH DISTRICT						
Atlantic	500	600	350	300	300	300
Camden	200	200	150	200	150	100
Cumberland	1,100	1,100	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Gloucester	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,100	1,100	1,100
Salem	1,100	1,000	1,000	1,000	900	900
Other counties	300	300	300	300	300	300
STATE	4,800	4,900	4,400	4,300	4,200	4,100

1/ Preliminary.

**NEW JERSEY: HEAD LETTUCE, ACRES HARVESTED FOR FRESH MARKET
BY COUNTIES, 1993 - 1998**

County	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998 1/
NORTH DISTRICT						
Warren	150	150	150	150	150	150
SOUTH DISTRICT						
Atlantic	250	200	200	200	200	200
Cumberland	1,350	1,300	1,000	800	800	800
Gloucester	100	100	100	100	100	100
Other Counties	50	50	50	50	50	50
STATE	1,900	1,800	1,500	1,300	1,300	1,300

1/ Preliminary.

